

From: WILCOX, Mark (LEEDS TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS TRUST) <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED]>
Sent: 23 March 2022 13:13
To: CHIEFNURSINGOFFICER, england (NHS ENGLAND) <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED]>; MATTHEWS, Samantha (NHS ENGLAND) <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED]>
Cc: BURTON, Duncan (NHS ENGLAND) <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED]>; WILLIAMS-FARAY, Natasha (NHS ENGLAND) <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED]>; Eleri Davies (Public Health Wales - Microbiology) <[REDACTED]@[REDACTED]>
Subject: RE: URGENT: OFF/SENSITIVE: PPE guidance for COVID-19 - briefing for CMO and CNO Wales

I have discussed with Eleri and then with Andrew Curran (HSE).

It appears that the communication from HSE Wales came following a meeting yesterday where there was a perception that the NIPCM was stating that SARS-CoV-2 transmission is via large droplets (only).

HSE's position regarding the modes of transmission of SARS-CoV-2 has not changed.

This all relates to differing interpretations of words used in IPC guidance and then comparing and contrasting these with other words used elsewhere in official documents/websites.

The reality is that virus transmission via the air is a continuum of possibilities including large particles (droplets) and small particles (aerosols). The longer some spends in close proximity to an infectious person in a poorly ventilated setting, the greater the risk of virus transmission (via large and/or small particles).

Using 'wholly' in our recent guidance has not helped.

Way forward:

- Ideally use terminology in our guidance that is consistent with (same as / similar to) that used by WHO.
- Be clear about use of risk assessments (hierarchy of controls).
- Be clear about empowering staff to be able to use enhanced RPE following application of the above.
- As always, educate, educate, educate HCWs.

Regards. Mark

From: CHIEFNURSINGOFFICER, england (NHS ENGLAND & NHS IMPROVEMENT – X24)
Sent: 23 March 2022 10:21
To: WILCOX, Mark (LEEDS TEACHING HOSPITALS NHS TRUST); MATTHEWS, Samantha (NHS ENGLAND & NHS IMPROVEMENT – X24);
Cc: BURTON, Duncan (NHS ENGLAND & NHS IMPROVEMENT – X24); WILLIAMS-FARAY, Natasha (NHS ENGLAND & NHS IMPROVEMENT – X24)
Subject: FW: URGENT: OFF/SENSITIVE: PPE guidance for COVID-19 - briefing for CMO and CNO Wales
Importance: High

Hi both,

Can you look at this urgently to discuss at 10:30

Thanks

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From: ■■■.■■■■@■■■.■■■ <■■■.■■■■@■■■.■■■>

Sent: 23 March 2022 10:14

To: CHIEFNURSINGOFFICER, England (NHS ENGLAND & NHS IMPROVEMENT - X24);

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Subject: URGENT: OFF/SENSITIVE: PPE guidance for COVID-19 - briefing for CMO and CNO Wales

Importance: High

Dear colleagues,

I have this morning received the attached briefing from the Chief Scientific Adviser at HSE, highlighting a possible misinterpretation of the nature of COVID transmission that could lead to incorrect prevention guidance. It cites the new guidance planned in England as of 30 March?? However I am wondering about consequences in last 2 years too?

This is really concerning and needs our attention asap. I have sent to Eleri as chair of IPC cell and asked for an urgent review and way forward.

I understand that HSE will be in touch with NHS England today to discuss. Ruth can you provide an update at tonight's meeting please. Jess will send an invite too all.

Best Wishes

Sue

Sue Tranka Prif Swyddog Nyrsio | Chief Nursing Officer Cyfarwyddwr Nyrs GIG Cymru | Nurse Director NHS Wales Swyddfa'r Prif Swyddog Nyrsio | Office of the Chief Nursing Officer Cyfarwyddiaeth Nyrsio | Nursing Directorate Llywodraeth Cymru | Welsh Government e-bost |

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† For clarity, in order to avoid disclosing email addresses: Ruth May, Alex McMahon, Maria McIlgorm
David Osborn